



**JOINT VENTURES: PARTNERS IN STEWARDSHIP**  
**NATIONAL INTERAGENCY PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE**

**COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIPS**  
**THE KEY TO SUCCESS**

**STATE & REGIONAL COORDINATION**

**DAVE BURCH**  
**STATE WEED COORDNIATOR**  
**MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Introduction slide “Cooperative Weed Management Partnerships the Key to Success” I am Dave Burch with the MDA I am the state weed coordinator and I will be giving the State & Regional perspective.



## A LITTLE HISTORY

Married for 26yrs, 8mos, 19days and counting, to Julie,  
two sons, one daughter-in-law(also named Julie), three  
grand kids, one cat, a Chevy 4x4 truck, and a Yamaha  
4-wheeler

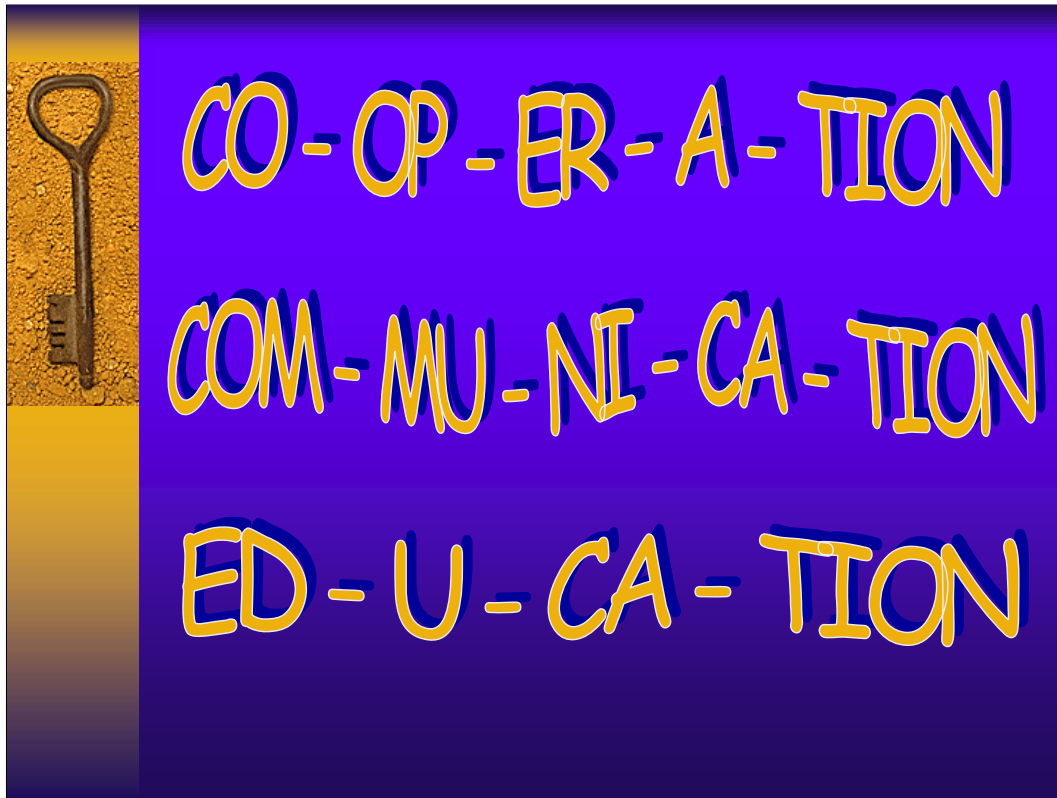
20 years experience in weed management:

- 7 years as Liberty County Weed District Supervisor
- 2 years as Lewis and Clark County Weed District Supervisor
- 5 years in Commercial Weed Control Business
- 3 years as Jefferson County Weed District Coordinator
- 2 years as Montana Department of Agriculture NWTF Grants  
Coordinator
- 1 year as MDA State Weed Coordinator

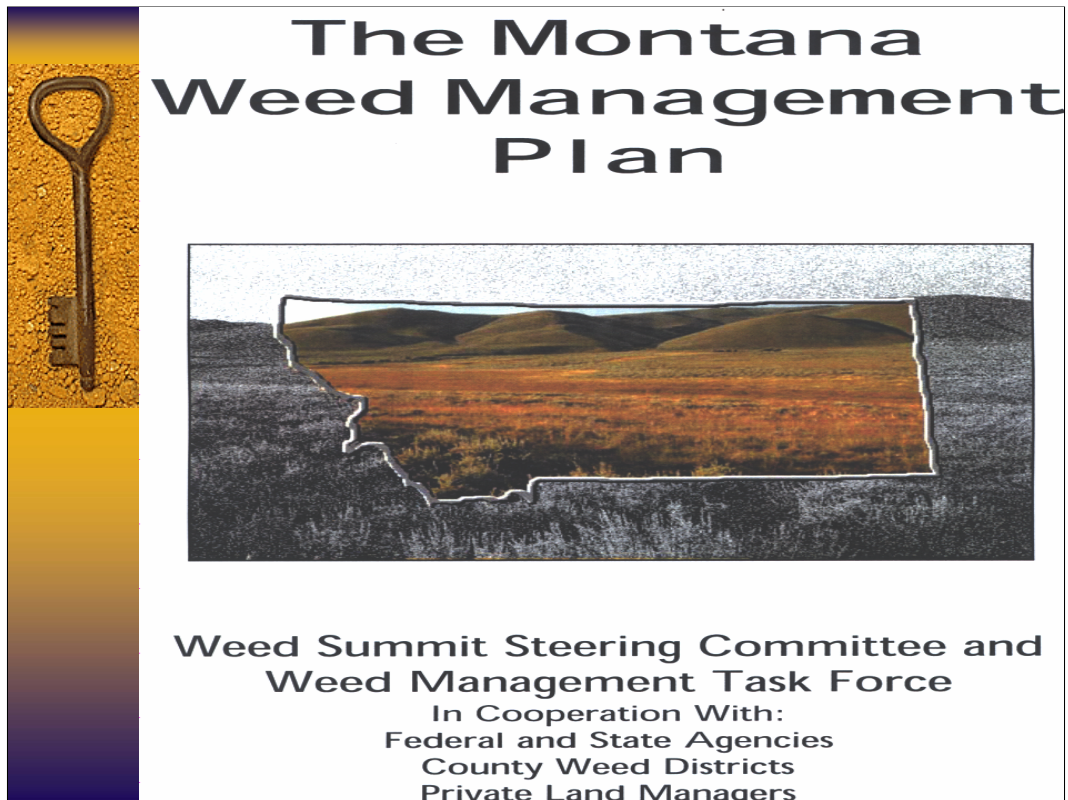
Will read slide and make some comments



How did we get where we're at today, show slide, this will lead into the discussion about education – cooperation - communication



We have gotten we're at today by coop, comm, & educ. These three components were the key to formulating our plan and having a successful partnership.



The Montana State Weed Management Plan was completed in 2000 after two governor arranged weed summits, one in 1998 and the other in 2000. This plan is a working document and is the foundation that other state & federal agencies, counties and Weed Management Areas look too when conducting weed management.



## Montana Weed Summit Steering Committee

- Dave Schulz, Chair, MACO Representative
- Phil Johnson, MDOT, State Agency Representative
- Jerry Marks, MSU Extension Representative
- Jim Ghekiere, County Weed Districts Representative
- Jim Olivarez, Federal Agency Representative
- Marty Malone, Vice Chair, MWCA Representative
- Ralph Peck, Governor's Office Representative
- Dave Burch, Montana Dept of Ag Representative
- Carla Hoopes, Education & Awareness Campaign Coordinator
- Janet Clark, Center for Invasive Plant Management Director

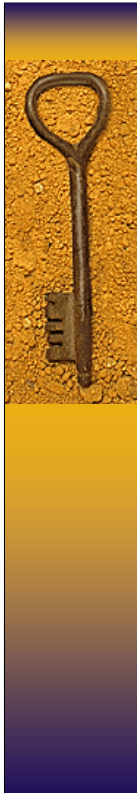
I will explain who these people are and who they represent.



## The Montana Weed Summit

- Management Task Force
- Education Task Force
- Research Task Force
- Prevention Task Force

The weed summit meeting focused on these four management strategies. Each task force was an important part of forming the state plan. Participants in the summit were asked to choose a task force they wanted to be involved in. Each task force met over the two years to gather information and write their portion of the plan.



## STRENGTHS OF THE PLAN

- ✦ Outline of existing programs, capabilities, and budgets
- ✦ Plan of Action
- ✦ Budget needs identified for a comprehensive program
- ✦ Implementation and evaluation of the plan

I will discuss each point and how they coincide with the plan. The outline of existing programs include all state agencies, county weed districts and federal agencies; the plan also has a plan of action with action items to accomplish the task; actual budgets are listed with projected budget needs for future years; the plan also includes a section on how or what needs to be done to implement the plan and evaluation is measured by how many action items have been completed. 29 out of 45 action items have either been completed or are near completion.





These are some of the achievement or successes of the plan. I will explain each task force but I will elaborate on the tansy ragwort and the the forest service EIS. The next slides are photos of the Little Wolf Fire area and how by treating and implementing a bio control program we were able to clean up the area.



This photo was taken in 1996 before treatments began. Most treatments were made by backpacks the first year and then we started to work on the Forest Service EIS so we could include aerial application, we were dealing with 10,000 acres and it was an unrealistic task to think it could be done by ground treatments. By cooperating, educating and showing combined support we were successful in getting the EIS in a very short time and were able to get the necessary controls started.



This photo was taken of the same area in 2001.



Herbicide treatments alone were not enough, it took an integrated approach and the cinnabar moth was a great success.





The Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund Program was established by legislature in 1985. It has evolved over the years and is one reason we have such success with weed control in Montana. we provide \$1.8 million annually to education, research, and local weed management areas to help control noxious weeds. We also have been awarded Cooperative Forestry Funding and these funds are used for local cooperative weed management areas. We have been award about \$830K per year for these type of projects.



**THE GOALS:**

- ◆ BUILD A TEAM EFFORT FOR  
MANAGING NOXIOUS WEEDS
- ◆ Private Landowners
  - ◆ Municipalities and Counties
- ◆ State and Federal Agencies
  - ◆ State Organizations
- ◆ Tribal Land Managers

The next three slide are just an overview and explain who, what, when, where of putting the plan together.



## ♦ ESTABLISH MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- ♦ Establish a priority basis for management
  - ♦ Develop MOU's to support implementation
  - ♦ Enforce weed control laws



- ◆ RAISE UNDERSTANDING OF IMPACTS OF NOXIOUS WEEDS

- ◆ Montana Education & Awareness Campaign
- ◆ Support research into the development of innovative weed management techniques
- ◆ Develop and distribute weed educational materials





The key to any successful program is local involvement with out it well you end up with problems



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